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PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of Brian M. Burmaster et al.
Serial No. 09/693,418
Filed October 20, 2000
Confirmation No. 1265
For PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF SULFUR
Examiner Timothy C. Vanoy

Art Unit 1754

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June 20, 2002

AMENDMENT A

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Office action dated March 27, 2002,
please enter the following amendments:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 12,
with the following rewritten paragraph:

--The portion of tail gas effluent 37 forwarded to tail gas treatment contains water vapor, trace amounts of sulfur, unreacted sulfur dioxide and hydrogen sulfide as well as other components of the incoming acid gas such as carbon dioxide and hydrocarbons. This gas is introduced into a combustion zone of an incinerator 40 along with an excess of combustion air 41 or other source of oxygen and supplemental fuel gas 43 as needed. In the combustion zone, sulfur species present in the tail gas effluent are oxidized to sulfur dioxide and any hydrocarbons present are oxidized to carbon dioxide and water in the excess air environment to form a combustion gas effluent 45 comprising sulfur dioxide. To moderate temperature, quenching water can be introduced